Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 JUSE-00 L-03 SCA-01 /018 W

-----090705Z 127746 /14

P 090345Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2974

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEHRAN 5073

FOR DEPT OF JUSTICE L.W. CHAMBLEE, J/CRIM

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, EFIN

SUBJ: U.S. VS. MANAFZADEH: CHASE MANHATTAN' BANK REQUEST

FOR IRANIAN BANK DOCUMENT

REF: (A) STATE 097220, (B) TEHRAN 03805

ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT EMBASSY SHOULD REQUEST INFORMATION DESCRIBED HEREAFTER THROUGH GOI CHANNELS.

1. CHASE MANHATTAN BANK OFFICIAL WILLIAM KAUFMANN (VICE PRES. INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES DIVISION, NY) RETURNED TO U.S. JUNE 7 AFTER SEVERAL DAYS INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES IN TEHRAN CONCERNING CHASE'S CIVIL ACTION AGAINST IRANIAN CITIZEN EKRAM MANAFZADEH.

(EMBASSY IS UNAWARE WHETHER THIS SUIT IS SAME AS REFERRED TO IN REF A; WE UNDERSTAND ISSUE HAS BEEN FURTHER COMPLICATED WITH ADDITIONAL SUITS EITHER IN PROCESS OR CONTEMPLATED). INVESTIGATION CENTERED ON ALLEGATIONS BY MANAFZADEH THAT IN LATE 1976 HE INSTRUCTED PAYMENTS TO BE MADE FROM HIS IRANIAN BANK ACCOUNT TO A CERTAIN IRANIAN COMPANY. KAUFMANN SAID THAT FBI HAD IDENTIFIED BANK ACCOUNT AS NUMBER 6206 IN BRANCH 1445 OF BANK SADERAT. SADERAT OFFICIALS CONFIRMED THIS TO KAUFMANN, SAYING ACCOUNT WAS CLOSED IN 1974. COMPANIES REGISTRATION OFFICE, MINISTRY OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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JUSTICE, DID NOT HAVE THE ALLEGED RECIPIENT COMPANY LISTED.

2. NONEXISTENT BANK ACCOUNT AND COMPANY AT TIME OF ALLEGED TRANSACTION CONSIDERED BY CHASE HIGHLY MATERIAL TO ITS LEGAL ACTION. BUT NEITHER BANK SADERAT, OWING TO SECRECY PROVISION OF BANKING LAW, NOR COMPANIES REGISTRATION OFFICE WILL PROVIDE INFORMATION IN WRITING UNLESS THEY RECEIVE A REQUEST FROM THE

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, WHICH, EMBASSY IS INFORMED, SHOULD RESPOND POSITIVELY TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REQUEST. CHAWE (KAUFMANN) THUS REQUESTED EMBASSY TO ASSIST BY INITIATING THE REQUEST TO MFA. EMBASSY, HAVING DETERMINED THAT SUCH WRITTEN INFORMATION WAS UNAVAILABLE BY LESS FORMAL MEANS, SAID IT WOULD SEEK INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON. SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 09-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: U.S. VS. MANAFZADEH: CHASE MANHATTAN\' BANK REQUEST FOR IRANIAN BANK DOCUMENT

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